Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs 1 and 2. This sheet replaces the original sheet including Figs. 1 and 2. In Figs. 1 and 2 the previously omitted legend "Prior Art" has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 29-39 were pending all of which stand rejected. Claims 29, 33, 34 and 39 have been amended. Claim 40 has been added.

Drawings

As requested, Figs 1 and 2 have been amended to include the legend "Prior Art."

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 29-39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by EP 1014450 A2.

Claim 29 has been amended to include the limitation "wherein said drain-drift region comprises a vertical stack of overlapping implanted regions." This limitation is supported at page 11, lines 18-24, of the specification and by Fig. 18. This structure is not described or suggested in EP 1014450 A2.

Claim 29 as amended is therefore allowable over EP 1014450 A2. Claims 30-38 and 40 depend from Claim 29 and are therefore allowable for the same reason.

Claim 39 has been amended to recite a drain-drift region and to specify that "a doping concentration in a vertical cross-section of said drain-drift region starting at said bottom of said trench increases monotonically with increasing distance below said bottom of said trench over the entire distance to said substrate." This limitation supported at page 10, line 31, to page 11, line 1, of the specification and by the graph of Fig. 16. This structure is not described or suggested in EP 1014450 A2.

Claim 39 as amended is therefore allowable over EP 1014450 A2.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 29-40 is patentable over EP 1014450 A2. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - Double Patenting

Claims 29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 36, 38 and 39 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,084,264. This ground of rejection has been overcome of the amendments to Claims 29

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and 39, described above. Claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,084,264 do not contain limitations similar to the limitations added to Claims 29 and 39, for example, in this amendment. Therefore Claims 29-40, as amended, are not obvious over Claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent No. 6,084,264.

For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 29-40. Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this response, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (408) 982-8200, ext. 1.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS"

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the below date.

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

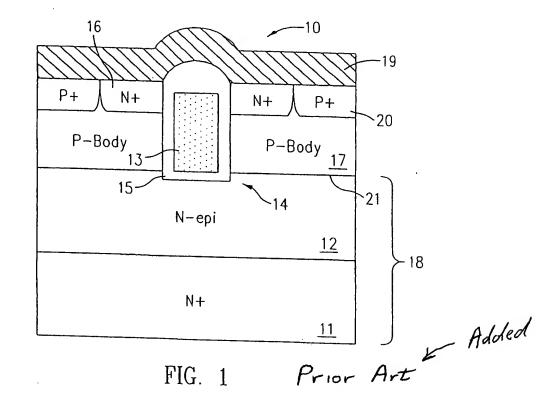
David E. Steuber

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 25,557

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes





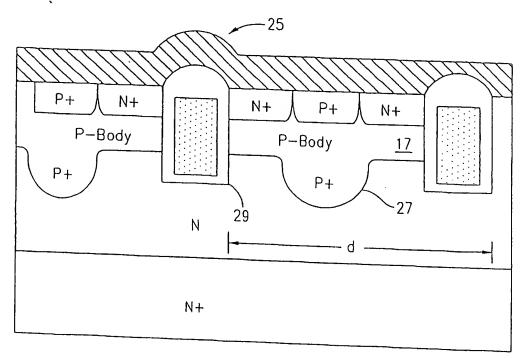


FIG. 2 Prior Art & Added